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OPTICAL DISK, METHOD OF PLAYING OPTICAL DISK, AND OPTICAL DISK DRIVE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[Field of the Invention]

The present invention relates to an optical disk and a method of playing an optical disk. More specifically, the present invention relates to an optical disk which records disk-specific identification information for preventing unauthorized copying, a method of playing the optical disk, and an optical disk drive.

[Related Art]

Conventionally, each optical disk records disk-specific identification information in order to prevent unauthorized copying. As a typical conventional art of recording the identification information on an optical disk, for example, the burst cutting area (BCA) recording method used in a digital versatile disk (DVD) is known.

The BCA recording method is a method configured to form a non-reflective portion on a plurality of tracks by partially fusing a reflective layer of a disk by means of laser trimming, then to dispose this non-reflective portion in a bar code fashion, and thereby to record the identification information on the optical disk which is unique thereto. The BCA recording method is effective for a playback-only disk such as a CD-ROM or a DVD-ROM which only has the reflective layer. However, a BCA writer is very expensive and thereby causes a cost increase.

A write-once optical disk such as a CD-R or a DVD-R does not allow overwriting of the recorded information. Therefore, it is possible to record the disk-specific identification information by use of a recorder. On the contrary, in the case of a magneto-optical disk or a phase-change optical disk, it is possible to overwrite the recorded information. A conceivable method in this case is a method of recording disk-specific identification information